



INFORMATION UPDATE FOR WHOLESALE CUSTOMERS

http://www.seattle.gov/util/About_SPU/News/Newsletters/index.asp

Seattle Water Supply Indicators

February, 2007

Water Storage	
Reservoir Inflows	
Snowpack	
Customer Use	
Overall	
Good Fair Poor	

For more information, visit www.savingwater.org



Water Supply Outlook

Our overall water supply situation and outlook are good. Last week, 0.25 inches and 0.15 inches of precipitation were recorded in our Cedar and S.F. Tolt River watersheds, respectively. Snowpack levels in our upper watersheds are estimated at about 126 percent of normal for this time of the year. While the last two weeks have been relatively dry, forecasters are looking at an unsettled weather pattern to develop in the Pacific Northwest region, with an increasing chance for precipitation to fall as light to moderate valley rain and mountain snow during the week ahead.

Chester Morse Lake is at elevation 1548.8 feet, about 0.1 feet higher than last week, and about 3.0 below its long-term average (based on the years 1989 to 2005). The South Fork Tolt Reservoir is at elevation 1754.3 feet, about 0.7 feet lower than last week, and about 0.3 feet below its long-term average.



Water Quality Technical Forum Report

Chlorine Residual and Coliform Data

There were no positive coliform samples in purveyor areas during January 2007. Average chlorine residual concentrations in the purveyor distribution systems ranged from 0.6 to 1.3 mg/L, with an overall average of 0.98 mg/L. The chlorine residual targets at the Tolt Treatment Facility and Cedar Water Treatment Facility are still 1.5 mg/L. The number of samples with chlorine less than 0.2 mg/L was 12 in January (out of 739 samples).

Taste and Odor

The taste and odor panel is now meeting every other week. Samples are rated on a scale from 1 to 9, with 1 representing the best and 9 representing the worst. The taste and odor flavor rating assessment (FRA) for the Cedar supply (Lake Youngs treated) sample in January was 2.6 with a slight plastic and chlorine taste. The Tolt supply result was 2.0 and described as slightly chlorinous. If you would like to receive a weekly update of the taste and odor panel results, please e-mail Moya Joubert at moya.joubert@seattle.gov.

SPU Contact: Wylie Harper, 206 684-7880 or Lynn Kirby, 206 684-0216.



Conservation Technical Forum

On the web at <http://www.savingwater.org>

2007 Savvy Gardener Classes to Focus on Plant Selection

Staff is talking with two of the largest nurseries in our service area (Swanson's and Molbak's) to develop methods that better inform customers about proper plant selection. Choosing the right plants to match existing garden conditions is a critical piece of reducing water use in landscapes. So far, a series of four classes have been planned at Swanson's with more to possibly follow at Molbak's. These classes would highlight the same plants that are listed in The Plant List (SWP's brochure of 200+ plant ideas). Beyond classes, staff is discussing possible plant displays that include holders for The Plant List. The displays might inspire gardeners as well as inform them by making The Plant List more visible and accessible.
CONTACT: Liz Fikejs, (206) 615-0516

Natural Lawn & Garden Hotline Hours Extended

SWP helps fund the Natural Lawn & Garden Hotline to help gardeners use less water, avoid pesticides, build healthy soil and find "natural" solutions to gardening problems. The service is available to residents throughout King County. Starting March 24th, gardeners will be able to reach the Hotline on Saturdays. Hours of operation will be Monday through Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Hotline phone number is (206) 633-0224.
CONTACT: Carl Woestwin, (206) 684-4684

YOUTH EDUCATION New Bert Bookmarks Available

New bookmarks that promote the newly-revised SWP Kid's Web Page are available for distribution at your customer counters, events and schools. Like the former blue version, bookmarks feature the familiar two-sided Bert the Salmon cut out image at the top, but are bright yellow (some would say salmon color) to attract interest and convey the new web page color. Details about the new web page are featured on one side and with water conservation tips on the reverse. While the target audience is age 7-17 year old kids, they can be distributed to any person who is interested, including teachers and parents. We want to continue to promote the award winning features of the Kid's Page, so that we can add more fun educational features in the future.
Contact: Arece Hampton, (206) 733-9137

